



Weekly Information & Communication



Weekly WIC Newsletter

May 15, 2017

June Local Agency Conference Call

Please mark your calendar for our June 1st conference call at 9:00 am. The updated agenda is [here](#). There are several IMPORTANT topics being covered, and therefore we have sent an additional invite to upper management at each local agency to ask them to attend.

A few highlights include:

We will be asking you to distribute, collect and submit participant surveys throughout the summer. We are currently having them printed and will ship them (with a collection box) to each agency throughout the state. We would like to run it for 3 months starting in June. We will discuss this more on June 1st.

We will be reviewing the status of eWIC. With pilot starting in June, there will be a lot of updates for the rest of the state with what is to come in the next few months in preparing for statewide rollout. There will be some additional work to plan on prior to rollout, so we want you to have plenty of time to consider this.

Lastly, we will be reviewing our WIC FFY Funding Formula. There will be time for discussions and questions, as well as a comment period for the 2 weeks following the call.

July WIC Workgroup Meeting

Our next WIC Workgroup (WWG) will be held July 13-14th in Helena at the Radisson Hotel (406-443-2100). We will be starting mid-morning on the first day, and ending around 1:30 pm the second day to accommodate travel. Hotel rooms at the block rate will be available until 6/12/17, just mention you are with WIC.

As always, we welcome observers! Travel costs will be up to you or your agency, however, state rate will be available at the hotel and meals during the meeting will be provided. Please RSVP to [Kate](#) if you plan to attend by July 1st so I can order enough food and finalize the room set up. Some topics we will be addressing include: Nutrition Assessment Question updates; Prescription Form revisions; website review; and, other topics yet to be determined (let your WWG member know if you have suggestions).

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Conference Call

The next BPCP call will be May 25, 2017, starting at 9:00 am. If you have any topics for the agenda, please email them to Chris at cfogelman@mt.gov by Thursday, May 18th. The agenda will be in the May 22nd newsletter.

Buy Eat Live Better

Montana State University Extension has [materials](#) from its SNAP-Ed Buy Eat Live Better nutrition materials available on their site. There are fact sheets on various topics and recipes with nutrition information included that are available.

You can also check out if classes are available in your area for participants receiving SNAP benefits.

Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) Nutrition Courses for Fall 2017

The [courses](#) offered online by SFCC for the Fall 2017 have been announced. If you have someone under a hard-to-hire designation or working toward being a CPA, there are designated classes that will work for nutrition college credits.

Other nutrition course can also be used for continuing education credits. If you have any questions, contact jalittle@mt.gov or cfogelman@mt.gov.

National Maternal and Infant Nutrition Course

The University of Minnesota has opened registration for the 2017 National Maternal and Infant Nutrition Course. This course will be August 16-18, 2017. For more information please visit the [University of Minnesota's website](#).

Resource: Produce for Better Health Foundation

Check out the [Health and Wellness Resource Guide for Fruits and Vegetables](#) from Produce for Better Health Foundation.

This fruit and vegetable promotion guide is a colorful resource for food safety, disease prevention and more. The guide is a useful reference for health promotion and healthy eating programs.

2017 Educational Buys

The deadline for Educational Buy completion is rapidly approaching, **7/31/17**. It is encouraged that you schedule your visits with retailers as soon as possible, if you have not done so already. It is important to remind retailers what the purpose of the visit is and the expectations from both the State and Local offices. Please contact [Alex](#) for benefits or should you have any other questions at 444-4746.

Weekly Risk Code Highlight

Risk Code 141, Low Birth Weight and Very Low Birth Weight is defined as follows:

Weight Classification	Cut-Off Value
Low Birth Weight (LBW)	Birth weight defined as ≤ 5 lbs. 8 oz (≤ 2500 g), for infants and children less than 24 months.
Very Low Birth Weight (VLBW)	Birth weight defined as ≤ 3 lbs. 5 oz (≤ 1500 g), for infants and children less than 24 months.

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